



SPAR eNEWS

"Know the Happenings in Shreveport's Public Assembly and Recreation Department"

February Issue

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Recreation



SPAR has started a book donation drive for its 15 community centers After School Programs. Libraries will be established at each of the centers for use in the After School Programs.

Donations of children's books should be made at our Wildwood facility located at 7401 Jewella Avenue. For more information call Robin Jenkins at 318.213.0434.

The monthly Free Haircut Program visited Lakeside Community Center on January 26, 2009. There were 37 youth who received haircuts from Byron Lanaeux and Brian Hampton of Premier Cou-Pate Barber Shop. Hollywood Heights Community Center is the next stop for the program. It will be on February 23, 2009 beginning at 4:30 pm at 4815 McDaniel Drive.

For more information call Byron at 636.7004 or Germaine Williams, SPAR Superintendent, at 673.7873.

Athletics

The Athletics Division is in the final preparation phase for the 21st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Basketball Tournament scheduled for Feb 13-15. We are still accepting teams in all divisions (Pro Am, Wheel Chair, Men, Women, Coed and Youth). The entry deadline is Feb 6. Please call Mary Murphy @ 673.7776 for additional information.

Planning has begun for the upcoming baseball and softball seasons. The coaches organizational meeting for youth T-Ball, machine pitch, baseball and softball is scheduled for Feb 17, 6:30 pm at the SPAR office located on 7401 Jewella Ave. The adult softball program will hold its coaches meeting at 7:00 pm on Feb 24, also at the SPAR office. You may contact one of the following individuals for additional information:

Mary Murphy (Adults) 673.7776, James St. Romain (Youth) 673.7748 or Kronski Grigsby (Adults & Youth) 673.7749

Shotokan Karate at SPAR



The Shreveport Karate Club (Est. 1961) offers Shotokan style karate classes at A. B. Palmer Park, 547 E. 79th Street & Line Avenue. Shotokan karate is one of the most popular martial arts practiced today. It has its roots in the ancient Chinese martial arts, and can even be traced back to the ShaoLin temple. The classes are held on Monday & Wednesday 5:30 PM for beginners and 6:00 PM for advanced students. Men, women and children 8 years of age and older may participate. The instructors are Glenn Taylor, 4th Degree Black Belt, Deb Kutz, 3rd Degree Black Belt, Rick Kutz, 3rd Degree Black Belt and Dee Peterson, 3rd Degree Black Belt. All belt testing done by Mr. Takayuki Mikami, 8th Degree Black Belt, Chief Instructor, All South Karate Federation. For more information call Glenn Taylor, 751.7992.

Youth Programs

- Artist Tony Reans has joined the After School Program. Tony's expertise in cartooning & photography will provide new avenues for our youth to artistically express themselves.

- The Lakeside Community Center's fencing program resumes in February and will be divided into younger and older age groups.

- Thanks to Jerry Davenport for the many benefits of the Life Skills classes that incorporated a computer enhanced outline of new president Barack Obama for the youth to color.

- Centers are gearing up for their Black History programs during Black History Month in February.

- Grades are improving as well, and at least one center is planning a skating party to reward the obvious academic effort of our After-Schoolers.

Upcoming Events

February 11 - Health Fair (Bilberry Park)
9:00am - 12:00 Noon

February 13 - 15: MLK BB Tourney

February 16 - Presidents Day

February 19 - Masquerade Ball (Airport Park) 5:30pm

February 23 - Free Haircuts (Hollywood Heights)
4:30pm - 6:00pm



For all Shreveport/Bossier events check out:

shreveportbossierfunguide.com



Photo Contest!



SPAR's "Take A Pic, & Win A Tee" photo contest is ongoing. Take a fantastic photo of your family, friends and you enjoying a SPAR facility or event and win a T-shirt! Contest open to all except SPAR employees and their family. Photo must be a 2009 photo and can be of person(s) or thing. Win your t-shirt now!

Email photograph to: frederick.lewis@shreveportla.gov

Include "Photo Contest" in subject along with relevant names, facility and event.

Senior Happenings



January was a fun filled month for our seniors. The month featured Senior programs and luncheons celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday at all the Centers;. Many local community leaders who marched with Dr. King were also honored.

At the Lakeside Recreation Center, the seniors held a Bean-Bag Baseball and Washer Pitch Tournament. More than 130 people participated. The winners of the Bean-Bag Baseball Tournament were: 1st Place - SPAR Airport Park; 2nd Place - "The Who Knows"; and 3rd Place - Caddo Council on Aging. The winners of the Washer Pitch Tournament were: 1st Place - Theresa Ringey and 2nd Place - John Westerfield.

A Health Fair will be held at Bilberry Park, 1902 Alabama Street on Feb. 11th, from 9-12 noon. A Nubian King & Queen will be crowned at the Bill Cockrell Recreation Center, 4109 Pines Road, from 9-12 noon on Feb. 26th.

The computer classes and chair aerobics are in full swing. The computer classes started on January 12. There are 105 seniors enrolled in the basic and advanced classes. Computer classes are filled until the next session. The chair aerobics classes are still accepting participants. The classes are held at David Raines, Airport Park, Bilberry, Valencia, A B Palmer, Hattie Perry and Lakeside Community Centers. Visit the Senior Programs page @ www.myspar.com.